

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT



Meeting Date: March 11, 2004

Subject **Citizen Budget Forum Public Input**

Background In the fall of 2003, the Scottsdale City Council established the City Council Budget Subcommittee for the purpose of gathering public input regarding the Scottsdale city budget and making recommendations to the full City Council on the budget. The FY 2004/05 Budget Subcommittee members are Councilman Bob Littlefield, Chair; Vice Mayor Wayne Ecton; and Councilman David Ortega. It was determined at the Subcommittee's meetings in January 2004, that public outreach efforts would include three Citizen Budget Forums held at locations spread throughout the City. This report is a summary of those meetings.

Summary **Outreach Methods** - Multiple outreach methods were used to notify citizens as to the dates, times, locations and content of the forums. The methods used were:

- Press releases were sent to newspapers resulting in several news briefs.
- Postcards were sent out inviting interested community and neighborhood leaders and residents to attend the forums.
- Postcard and e-mail invitations were sent to the neighborhood notification list and to participants in the *Roadmap to the Future* strategic action planning sessions that were held in October 2003.
- Personal telephone calls were made to neighborhood leaders and citizens that attended the *Roadmap to the Future* sessions inviting them to a Forum.
- Links were added the City's Internet home page, and web pages were created with additional information about the forum. An e-mail address to submit comments was created for citizens unable to attend a forum.

The forum locations were geographically dispersed throughout the community to make it easier for residents to attend closer to their homes.

Forum Format - Each forum included a welcome by the Chair, overview by the Budget Director and a description of service area programs by a key staff member. Citizen Budget Forum participants were asked to respond to these questions:

- 1) For your service area, indicate your three highest-priority programs.
- 2) For your service area, indicate your three lowest priority programs.
- 3) In difficult economic times would you prefer the City respond by: (a) reducing the budget and related services, (b) looking for more revenue or (c) both.
- 4) If looking for more revenue is your response to addressing community needs and priorities, where do you think the money should come from (i.e., sales tax, property tax, user fees, service charges, etc.)?
- 5) Do you have any cost reduction ideas for any programs or services offered by the City?

The specific dates, locations, and number of participants are provided below:

Date	Location	# of Participants
February 4	La Mirada Center	17
February 12	Community Design Studio	20
February 18	Via Linda Senior Center	18
Subtotal		55
February 26 (Spanish-Language Outreach - LINKS/Conexiones Community Celebration)	Paiute Park	45
E-mails (as of Mar. 8 th)		12
Total		112

Participant Priorities – Each participant completed a worksheet ranking their highest and lowest priorities. The following table summarizes priorities identified by participants during the three Citizen Budget Forums (Questions #1 and #2)

City Planning & Code Enforcement Services	
High Priorities	Low Priorities
1. Code Enforcement	1. Preservation
2. Preservation	2. Inspection & Land Survey
3. Downtown Group	3. (tie) Hospitality Development
	3. (tie) Econ. Vitality Admin.
	3. (tie) CNR – Information Resources
Leisure, Cultural & Human Services	
High Priorities	Low Priorities
1. Youth Activities	1. Professional Baseball
2. (tie) Grounds & Landscape Maintenance	2. (tie) Medians & Right-of-way
2. (tie) Main Library	2. (tie) Trails & Equestrian Facilities
3. (tie) Senior Citizen Services	3. Aquatics
3. (tie) Parks, Recreation & Facilities Planning	
Public Safety Services	
High Priorities	Low Priorities
1. Patrol Services	1. False Alarm Reduction Program
2. Traffic Enforcement	2. Event Traffic Control
3 (tie) Burglary & Theft Investigations	3. Mounted Patrol
3. (tie) Violent Crimes Investigations	
Transportation & Utility Services	
High Priorities	Low Priorities
1. Transportation Planning	1. (tie) Street Cleaning
2. Traffic Engineering	1. (tie) Household Hazardous Waste
3. Transit	1. (tie) WestWorld Golf & Recharge

In addition to questions about city services, participants were also asked a series of questions relating to the City's budget and financial policies. In response to Question #3, "In difficult economic times would you prefer the City respond by..." Participants responded in the following ways.

1. (63%) Reducing the budget and related services AND Looking for more revenue
2. (24%) Looking for more revenue
3. (14%) Reducing the budget and related services

Participants who felt the City "respond by looking for more revenue" preferred the following sources in response to Question #4. "Where do you think the money should come from?" (In order of number of responses)

1. User fees (42 responses)
2. Service charges (34)
3. Property taxes (23)
4. Other sources (19)
5. Sales taxes (18)

Spanish-Language Outreach - In addition to the three forums, staff also listened to priorities from the Spanish-speaking community during a community celebration at Paiute Park held on February 26, 2004. Participants were asked to review a list of twenty-four City services and share which services are most and least important. 45 residents participated in this survey (Attachment #6).

Spanish-Language Outreach Results	
<i>High Priorities</i>	<i>Low Priorities</i>
1. Services to youth	1. Land use, Planning & Zoning
2. (tie) Drinking water	2. Yard Waste Collection
2. (tie) Police	3. (tie) Economic Development
2. (tie) Traffic Enforcement	3. (tie) Traffic Signal Timing

Participant Comments - Comments from each of the Citizen Budget Forums, the Spanish-Language Outreach, and e-mails received at Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov are attached (Attachments #1-5). Please note: comments were included verbatim, in their entirety, to preserve the integrity of the process.

Next Steps

The next steps in the City Council Budget Subcommittee's process are:

Study Sessions - The Budget Subcommittee will hold Study Sessions with each of the department heads to review their proposed FY 2004/05 operating and capital budgets. These sessions are scheduled for March 23, 26 and April 2, 2004, beginning at 9 a.m. The sessions are intended to assess how well each department's proposed budget aligns with citizen input, priorities, and the City's Mission and Goals established by the City Council. Also, the Budget Subcommittee will review the City's proposed multi-year Financial Plan, including an examination of the revenue forecast and related assumptions.

Report to City Council - The results of the Budget Subcommittee's work are scheduled for presentation to the full City Council on Monday, May 3 during a public meeting. The report will be presented before the City Council's first public budget hearing scheduled for Tuesday, May 4. (Attachment 7)

All sessions are open to the public.

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Attachments

1. Comments from Feb. 4, 2004 Forum at La Mirada Desert Center
2. Comments from Feb. 12, 2004 Forum at Community Design Studio
3. Comments from Feb. 18, 2004 Forum at Via Linda Senior Center
4. Comments from Feb. 26, 2004 Spanish-Language Outreach at Paiute Park
5. E-mails received at Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov
6. Spanish Language Survey
7. Chronological Listing of Forums, Meetings and Study Sessions

February 4, 2004
Citizen Budget Forum
La Mirada Desert Center

City Planning and Code Enforcement Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Customer Service & Communications – Citizen involvement – listening to residents – empowerment.
- Code Enforcement – Downtown problems. No CC&Rs.
- Code Enforcement – Needs are not addressed by City.
- Code Enforcement – Enforcement protects investment, property value.
- Downtown Group / Economic Development - Importance of the re-vitalization of south Scottsdale
- Downtown Group - The Downtown Group is fighting inevitable economic deterioration caused by the movement of the city northward.
- Downtown Group - We need to focus on our efforts on better marketing downtown Scottsdale as a family destination. This is the star of Scottsdale – art, speciality shops.
- Downtown Group – Need to bring downtown together for the greater good.
- Economic Development - We need to develop and execute a business attraction marketing and communications plan to assist in revenue generation.
- Economic Development – Must be proactive – market and attract high tech businesses.
- Economic Development – Work with chamber. Create more partnerships.
- Economic Development – Make downtown stronger, more attractive.
- Preservation - Critical to our quality of life
- Preservation – City's major asset – our jewel - quality of life & economic well being.
- Preservation – Complete Preserve.
- Preservation – Historic Preservation is a deterrent.
- Preservation - #1 because it will make the city special. It's greatest asset!!!

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- Code Enforcement/ Housing Rehabilitation & ADA / Inspection & Land Survey Services - These are maintenance functions; important, but would not increase budgets, if possible.

Leisure, Cultural and Human Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Arts and Cultural Services – No. 1 priority
- Community Services Plan. & Admin / Trails & Equestrian Facilities – No. 2 priority
- Facilities Maintenance/Grounds & Landscape Maintenance/Medians and Right of Way – These three are far from sexy – they are, however, essential to maintain what has made Scottsdale unique – Fund the Fundamentals.
- Grounds & Landscape Maintenance/Medians & Right of Way – No. 3 priority
- Main Library/Branch Libraries/Library Planning & Administration – No. 4 priority
- WestWorld Operations – Important.

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- I don't know enough to evaluate the "least useful."
- None.

Public Safety Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Burglary & Theft Investigations - Improve response & recovery to burglary/theft occurrence
- City Facility & Workplace Security - I've seen tendency to violence in Kiva by citizens.
- General Fire Protection – Critical to city living.
- General Fire Protection - Overall good of community
- Photo Enforcement – Police presence is critical to safe city and feeling of safety for citizens

- Traffic Enforcement - Reduction of traffic violations/safety
- I like to give the police and fire department all the help they need to do the job properly.

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- Event Traffic Control – Least critical function in terms of criminal activity.
- False Alarm Reduction Program – Could be abandoned if needed.
- False Alarm Reduction Program – Tighten Ordinance vs. Public Education.
- Mounted Patrol – maintenance costs.
- Planning, Research & Accreditation – Would get done another way with different funds.
- Telephone Reporting Services – Increase field reporting via technology improvements.

In difficult economic times how would you prefer the City respond?

- B. - (Look for more revenue). - New Revenue sources need to be tapped (i.e. taxing professional service salons, legal, accounting, engineering, architects). Head tax.
- B. - Easy to spot areas that need aesthetic and functional improvements – to bring in more revenue.
- B. - We have to have the preserve.
- C. (Reduce budget and related services & Look for more revenue) - Nothing is so simple-budgets don't operate in vacuums! We will always add more services than we cut. Programs begin, flourish withers and then should be eliminated.
- C. - The budget should always be scrutinized to be absolutely certain it is as low as it possibly can be. Once that has been accomplished, rather than reducing or eliminating critical services, additional sources of revenue should be sought.
- C. - Need to look at all options. Look for cuts first.
- C. - There are always opportunities to achieve cost savings, however I believe that Scottsdale can tax its citizenry a little more in order to continue to provide the best of services that the city currently does.
- C. - We need good services and I am willing to pay for them.
- C. - Some services are more historical than they relevant today- e.g. those programs/services that are available competitively from the private sector. Those are most subject to cut – though with great pain!
- C. - In these economic times it is essential to balance essential services with those that are nice to have in better times, but we can do within 2004-05.
- C. - Prioritize
- C. - Reduce expenditures to corporations and businesses to locate here-e. g. giving millions to a Phoenix Cadillac dealer to relocate here, verses Phoenix giving millions to our Mercedes dealer to relocate there. \$15,000,000 of taxpayers money to two very profitable enterprises. WRONG! Increase revenue through user fees; building permits, etc.
- C. - There still may be room to cut budget without cutting programs or services. Budget needs to be lean & mean before cutting programs or raising revenues.
- C. - We need good services and I am willing to pay for them.

Where do you think the money should come from?

- All – Wherever you can them from.
- All - The one most appropriate for expense.
- Sales – Preserve essential. No added property tax. We fixed income people have enough trouble now.
- Sales/User – Easy to spot areas that need aesthetic and functional improvements – to bring in more revenue.
- Sales / Property - We can afford it.
- Sales/Property/User/Service/Other - Maintaining quality of life costs dollars.
- Property - Our property tax rate is very low and the city needs a consistent steady revenue stream. Sales tax revenues fluctuate with economy.

- Property/Use - Sales taxes are fast becoming a limited source for the city and will be more so in the future. Property taxes will have to be considered to maintain the quality of life for residents and to attract tourists.
- Service Charges / Other - Resources for public services/programs should be reflective of the economic strength of the city/region/country.
- Other - Possibly all of the above, the city needs to have balanced, equitable tax system.
- Other - Fund raisers, sponsors.
- Other – Head Tax
- Other - Raise the gas tax for roads.
- Other - Information age, digital values added tax.
- Other - Economic development as a revenue-generator.
- Other - Does not like naming rights – not on tops of buildings too (relating to multi-purpose building at WestWorld – “That’s just not Scottsdale.”
- As development nears end, we need to find alternative financing for programs or services to replace funding related to growth.
- Balanced, fair equitable tax base needed. Those receiving most benefit should pay more.

Cost Reductions

- Aviation - Morrison Institute doesn’t see it as necessary-sees as convenient for a few CEOs.
- Police - 2.8m saving. 5 day/8 hour work week vs. 4 day 10 hour work week.
- Police – 1.0m saving. 1 response to Burglar Alarms (false only)
- Police – 1.0m saving. Overtime control. What’s the overtime projection for the end of the year?
- Police – Sell the horses / pool the resources.
- Police – Any savings as it is related to technological advances?
- I don’t have enough specifics on the costs of various programs to recommend cost reductions.
- Use electronic versus paper when possible for mailings
- Just check them carefully.
- Cut down on “studies” that are expensive and - at times - not worthy.
- We’re the ones who suggested the recycling which pays for itself.
- Prioritize

Overall Comments

- Good effort-2nd session will be refined and better.
- Excellent forum, all that is lacking is the ability to look at dept proposed budget.
- You are all doing a great job! Thanks Debra (Baird)
- Community input is great. Hard to organize but will be more effective and efficient with practice.
- Great show!!
- Staff is great!
- Thank you so much for all the good work you are doing for us!! All of you!
- This is a lousy process – “helter-skelter” Good try, though. We appreciate being involved – but it’s far too complex an issue to be effectively dealt with in this way.

February 12, 2004
Citizen Budget Forum
Community Design Studio

City Planning & Code Enforcement Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Citizen & Neighborhood Resources (CNR) Administration - The original part of downtown & areas to the south end have paid for everything in the whole town
- Citizen & Neighborhood Administration - These are the people we come to for assistance on the rules we play by, also, the people who should be able to tell us who to contact to address our questions & concerns
- Citizen & Neighborhood Administration – Without you are – lost.
- Citizen & Neighborhood Administration – Original Downtown Homes – Support.
- Code Enforcement - Code enforcement is important to send a strong message as to the impact we each have in responsibility to one another
- Code Enforcement – 15-20 years area has gone down hill, losing good citizens as a result.
- Code Enforcement - Not adequate code inspectors (#)
- Code Enforcement - Numerous rentals need better enforcement. Absentee owners don't care.
- Code Enforcement – Ordinance is out of date – last updated? Benchmark other cities. Parking codes too lax.
- Code Enforcement - Lack of enforcers. Watching area deteriorate over last 15+ years.
- Code Enforcement - Keep neighborhoods up to par and not letting them run down and keeping them safe
- Code Enforcement - Our codes should be as good as others in the area to protect the value of our houses
- Code Enforcement - Deterioration of older areas will increase with the absentee owners & property being rentals
- Code Enforcement - The codes need to be changed again. Parking-so we need more code enforcement inspectors. Need one person on Saturdays.
- Code Enforcement - Would like to have code enforcement inspectors on the weekend.
- Code Enforcement - We need more code enforcement! One person who has the area from Thomas to McKellips and the alleys is ludicrous! With the amount of rentals that we are acquiring its impossible for one person to do it! We in our neighborhoods help as much as possible! Need weekend and night coverage too.
- Customer Service & Communications - We need more police & return to the teams patrolling the areas.
- Customer Service & Communications – Encourage block watch
- Downtown Group/Preservation/Environmental Planning/Citizen & Neighborhood Resources Admin./Customer Service & Communications – Heritage Historic References unique quality for citizens and tourists, preserve character of Scottsdale, attract creative class, can't bring back Sonoran Desert preserve as much as we can, historic registry.
- Downtown Group - We need to preserve and enhance our historic character to our downtown because it is our heritage
- Downtown Group - Help revitalize livable, social, economic base, attract "creative class", compete with other cosmopolitan cities
- Downtown Group - The preservation of downtown is important
- Downtown Group - Needed focus on rebuild of downtown.
- Downtown Group - Need more benches-not fancy.
- Downtown Group - After 25 years the Scottsdale Symphony could not use the Center of the Arts. All over the county the Symphonies are having money problems. They are part of the Arts and should be given.
- Downtown Group - Wasted money on huge bus trolleys.

- Downtown Group - Concerns about the price of downtown living getting too high that will keep families/middle class away from downtown.
- Economic Development – Increase tax revenue without getting it directly from the homeowner.
- Economic Development - Jobs, jobs, jobs! Increase tax base. Attract talented pool of workers
- Housing Rehabilitation & ADA - Aging population some need assistance to maintain properties.
- Housing Rehabilitation & ADA - Handicap accessibility is important within the City, especially at park-and-rides and bus stops.
- Hospitality Development - Promote Scottsdale. CVB is doing a great job. Tourism is essential to Scottsdale's well-being.
- Plan Review & Permit Services - Greater focus on single-family home improvements & staff assistance.
- Preservation - Preservation is important to our future generation
- Preservation - Retain natural beauty, topography, marketing tool, increase property value!
- Preservation - Too late to save the desert, but I am concerned about preserving historic buildings and areas
- Preservation - Preserving the historical neighborhoods is a great attraction and a big plus to the city
- Preservation – Expensive, ongoing, imperative.
- Preservation – Preserve as much land as possible.
- Preservation – Invaluable asset.
- Revitalization - New businesses redoing McDowell corridor would help the above two (code enforcement and housing rehabilitation)
- Revitalization - Up to date and that makes and attracts people who want to live in the area instead of moving out.
- Revitalization – South of Thomas needs improvement – new business.

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs.

- CNR Information Resources - Never knew it existed
- Current Planning – Combine with others. Too many staff at meetings (day or night).
- Economic Development - Redundant to revitalization
- Economic Vitality Administration - Maybe tighten and cut back.
- Existing Business Services – Redundant - Citizen service centers can address.
- Hospitality Development - Let the Chamber of Commerce pick up the slack here
- Hospitality Development – Well-known city.
- Hospitality Development – Let Chamber take back.
- Housing Rehabilitation & ADA - Redundant to neighborhood services
- Inspection & Land Survey Services - Why can't this be farmed out in another creative way through contractors or state agencies for some of the very large projects?
- Planning & Development Services - Do you really need that many people, 127?
- Preservation - Too much money and maybe too late
- Preservation - Preserve dollars - No benefit to me. Let private groups work with housing preservation.

Leisure, Cultural & Human Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs.

- Adult Sports & Fitness Programs – I go to Elder's Fitness Program.
- Aquatics – Very interested in.
- Arts & Cultural Services - Essential to the fabric of Scottsdale's identity.
- Arts & Cultural Services - Renovating former IMAX theatre good idea. Create a theatre district in downtown Scottsdale like in other U.S. cities. Have multiple small theatres instead of just one central theatre in town.
- Arts & Cultural Services - Requesting 80 thousand dollars of matching funds for a citizen-driven effort to raise the funds necessary to put in place a public art sculpture of Winfield Scott and his wife Helen.
- Parks, Rec. & Fac. – Planning & Admin – I am very interested in parks and recreation.

- WestWorld / Professional baseball - Important to Scottsdale due to sales tax and bed tax dollars they generate.
- Senior Services - There have been several recent reports of suicides by the elderly in Scottsdale. This issue needs to be addressed.
- Youth Activities - Important for kids in high school to keep them active and "off the streets".

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs.

- Aquatics - Can be handled by the private sector. Aquatics not an essential program since so many Scottsdale residents have swimming pools.
- Grounds Maintenance - Water (drought) concerns for the City. Continued efforts need to be made to conserve water in the City. Waste of water in City parks, sprinklers broken or watering pavement/sidewalks, waste of water on soccer field.
- Parks and Recreation - The city should not charge a fee for Little League fields.
- Senior Services - There is a low return on investment from providing senior services

Public Safety Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Burglary & Theft Investigations - Increase in neighborhood crime in my area
- Burglary & Theft Investigations – Need to prevent and catch.
- Crime Prevention – Anticipation
- Crime Prevention – Crime will be accelerating rapidly as illegals flood the country and jobs for others will turn good people into bad to exist.
- General Fire Protection - The city should not fund the past service retirement costs for the Rural Metro firefighters hired by the city in July 2005.
- General Fire Protection - The city should move to hire key executives/management personnel for the Fire transition as soon as possible in FY 2004/05.
- General Fire Protection – Transition to Municipal Fire Department
- Narcotics Undercover Investigations - Meth Labs/drug rings/cut down violence and increase neighborhood safety
- Narcotics Undercover Investigations - Increase in drug related problems
- Patrol Services – Be available /code enforcement
- Patrol Services - Citizen protection & safety
- Patrol Services - Put two officers per car
- Patrol Services - First response
- Patrol Services - Lack of community policing has caused deterioration in the heavier populated areas of the south
- Patrol Services - More neighborhood officers
- Patrol Services - Primary role of dept/deterrent/ability to respond
- Photo Enforcement - Need more on major intersections
- Photo enforcement – Because its not enough
- Planning, Research & Accreditation – Safety (especially new construction)
- Recruiting & Personnel - Without good personnel nothing else matters
- Sex Crimes Investigations - Remove most dangerous criminals
- Technology – Safety - Preventative activities
- Traffic Enforcement - Speeders-raise revenue-prevent accidents
- Traffic Enforcement – Speed kills
- Training - To make the whole dept work – crime prevention by knowledge & training.
- Training - Crime prevention by knowledge & training
- Violent Crimes Investigations - Citizen protection & safety
- Violent Crimes Investigations - After the fact
- Violent Crimes Investigations - Most victimized individuals

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- Detention – Can we take to county?
- Event Traffic Control - Let special events & bars pay costs
- Event Traffic Control - Up to event
- False Alarm Reduction Program – Charge fees for violations
- False Alarm Reduction Program – Fines too low
- Fire Support – Redundant / firefighters better qualified
- Fire Support - City employees not properly trained and municipal fire dept will not need.
- Mounted Patrol - Only if money is short
- Mounted Patrol - Let special events & bars pay costs
- Photo Enforcement – Cameras have no discretion
- Photo Enforcement - Snap judgments
- Photo Enforcement - Philosophically wrong
- Planning, Research & Accreditation - Possibility to combine with office of Chief? Don't eliminate – reduce.
- School Resource Services – Why?
- Telephone Reporting Services - Should be upgraded

In difficult economic times how would you prefer the City respond?

- A. - Better police prevention means less investigation. Implies less cost as a result.
- A. - We must live within our means. To increase taxes when revenues (incomes) are falling will cause a greater fall in economy-simple supply and demand of economics. Review departmental people for possible savings to keep services up.
- A. - There are many worthless programs funded by city. As recommended by Citizen Budget Committee many could be reduced or eliminated. We cannot keep adding new taxes without creating a new subclass of people unable to exist and live in Scottsdale. Could add development fees. Review cost of benefits for staff to see if they are not in excess of corporate wages. They should not be guaranteed lifetime job security. If they can't hack the job bye-bye. Diversity goals shouldn't enter into picture.
- B. - We are growing and a "grown city." Our resources have not kept up with our population and it is imperative we seek changes in county property tax assessments to help fund our needs.
- B. - Reducing the budget and related services has backlashes against the citizens, therefore we need to maintain our budget and find other revenues.
- B. - I think tax is not an evil word. We enjoy an incredible quality of life – we need to be ready to pay for it.
- B. - Impact fees relative to all impacts and how it effects the rest of the tax payers should fall on mostly on those create the influx of our populations.
- B. - Impact fees. Make absentee homeowner pay a fee so that they will keep an eye on their property.
- C. - Review all departments and reduce staff accordingly - reduce employee benefits especially in fully funded health insurance program. Review all salaried position. Management structure looks like an upside-down pyramid.
- C. - Parks department does not have efficient staffing. Revenue from fines for violations are way to lower costs to dept/city. For example, code violations, library fines, speeding/traffic violations, charge park usage fees and signs violations, for example, political signs, charge fees for garage sales (require permits), special events.
- C. - Service needs, to some extent, must track inflation, population growth and social change.
- C. - Reductions - eliminate arts funding, reduce community services that benefit small segments (seniors, education, equestrian facilities).
- C. - City is just a business. A good business practice is increase revenue and cut cost.
- C. - Some services cannot be fixed and costs escalate e.g. utilities and maintenance, payroll auxiliaries. Programs need to be evaluated because some gain or lose in value and possible some could be eliminated.

- C. - Make more judicious decisions regarding incentives to attract new business, e.g. Los Arcos.
- C. - The least would be eliminating services such as code enforcers, police and fire. More money could be generated from impact fees and using employees more effectively.
- C. - The growth we have experienced in Scottsdale has been paid for basically by the old Scottsdale! We should have put impact fees in with the growth! Sprawl is costly and all the services have gone up and our schools down in our area are in dire straits!! Our services also are pretty minimal, lack of code enforcement, not enough police coverage and our water bills are probably one of the highest compared to other cities!
- C. - Give incentives to staff and employees to cut cost in boom and bust times. Remove the "spent the budget or we'll lost it" mentality. We should always seek to do more with less.
- C. - Budget should be lean and mean-like our household budgets are in time of crises-while working on developing relationships with long term industry. WalMart isn't going to do it!

Where do you think the money should come from?

- Sales / User / Service - I worry about the elderly on fixed incomes who can sustain their livelihoods but can't pay for an increase of a property tax. To own property is a fundamental right that should not be tampered with by overtaxing.
- Sales / User - Sales taxes also come from out of town people (Phoenix, etc) visitors. A small increase in user fees.
- Sales/Property/User/Service - Where a segment of the population is especially singled out for a benefit, there should be additional user fees and service charges. Where benefits are more general, use either sales and/or property taxes.
- Sales/Property/User/Service - Scottsdale is attracting service companies-DHL, Vanguard. There are many professional service companies that have a "free ride" in terms of taxing their products.
- Property / Service - Pay for services in relation to benefit. If your location is enhanced by special services or surroundings your benefit should equal cost. We have many unique services and offering in Scottsdale which increase our property value and we should pay for those benefits.
- Property / User - Most progressive tax to most regressive tax – tax the highest end earners.
- User / Service - Those who utilize services should pay the costs without receiving subsidies from other taxpayers.
- User / Service - Increase all fees for planning services, all services that require labor intense responses. Elevate all fees for speeding, dangerous driving such as red light and stop sign violators.
- User / Service - Users should pay. This includes land for the park up north.
- User Fees - I would say service fees but I'm not happy with the pool use fee increasing to a double price from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per visit.
- Service - User fees could be used but not to the extent that it affects children and others in a lower economic status from being able to use facilities. That only creates another problem.
- Other - Increase sin tax (alcohol, cigarettes); greater economic development efforts.
- Other – Impact fees.
- Other - Maybe we should not be so generous to the cultural council and the amount of money we spend on WestWorld? Let them pay or setup a system since the hotels say they bring in money let the hotels and WestWorld pay for it themselves!
- Other – Increase impact user fee!

Cost Reduction Ideas

- Cut out all tax incentive programs for bringing in business such as Los Arcos, Mr. Pedersons' projects and building playgrounds for millionaires, such as the San Francisco Giants. All the above suggestions should be implemented year round.
- Incorporate more safety features in all new construction and eventually existing.
- Prioritize the functions of the city and fund in each of those functions. Less vital departments should receive less funding when times are difficult. Areas where cuts can be made in tough times would be cultural arts, delays in increased building or personnel and expenses in diversity activities.
- Just do the job-and don't take home the "paper clips."

- Parks department needs better enforcement, example, unauthorized usage fines, excess staff in park offices at Chaparral Park. Parks department needs program for memorial plantings that will reduce costs of operation. Higher fees for library use by non-residents and local users late fees.
- Do not subsidize private businesses!
- Stop stupid zoning that then asks for a "Preserve".
- Cultural council; Culture Quest subsidy; preservation tax; Los Arcos give away tax. City should enforce codes at center.
- We are in transition. Equestrian is a piece of nostalgia-few own horses. Let's put a corral around it, expand on image and aesthetics. Partner with ASU on Los Arcos!!
- Increase property tax, tax services by professionals e.g. wills, trust, architectural services and license fees (burglar alarm etc.) In 1999 the annual license fee for alarms was \$20.00 in 2003 it was \$5.00 in Scottsdale.
- Continue to encourage citizens to volunteer.
- Negotiate profit sharing with Phoenix re: Kierland business; auto dealers & other businesses on west side of Scottsdale Road. Partner with Native American Community (Pima) on business enterprises.
- Utilizing employees in more effective way; in sanitation workers, police, etc. helping code enforcers. No consultants!
- Spent too much on bus trolleys-too big-need more reasonable bus benches not expensive fancy ones.
- Monthly passes for pools and recreation services at a 10% discount. This works well in private sector.
- Combining department/personnel whenever necessary. Use volunteer private citizen groups to augment projects e.g. work with code enforcement to identify problem areas. Look at the lawyer fees and contracting with a former city employee. Evaluate the need to hire consultants at every whim.
- How do staff get paid for overtime-city sends too many staff to a meeting
- Human Resources - The city should explore the feasibility of using a "purchase money" retirement plan (i.e., defined contribution retirement plan) in place of the current defined benefit plan.
- Human Resources - The city should determine the amount of health care benefit subsidy paid by the city for employee dependents and consider eliminating this subsidy.
- Aviation - Landing Fees should be assessed and collected on aircraft weighing less than 12,500 lbs.
- Legal - The legal provisions in the city contracts should be changed to use Alternative Dispute Resolution instead of going to court as means to resolve a matter.
- Service (performance) measures are important for the City to track and report (measure "bang for the buck").

General Comments

- Thank you for this opportunity.
- The access to city officials and forums like this is a valuable asset of this city.
- Citizens don't really appreciate city staff and often are not respectful.

February 18, 2004
Citizen Budget Forum
Via Linda Senior Center

City Planning & Code Enforcement Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Citizen & Neighborhood (CNR) Admin - Mobility of citizens within Scottsdale
- CNR Information Resources – Education, communication and citizen involvement
- Code Enforcement – Best in class neighborhoods; housing maintenance/yard maintenance
- Code Enforcement – Supports the residential structure of the neighborhood
- Customer Services & Admin - Gives a positive opinion of our city government
- Economic Development – Looking ahead – assume population growth and resources required will balloon – sales tax & property taxes will act as a brake on future growth if they continue to rise – Tourism cannot be a major source looking a head for a revenue loss.
- Economic Development - Affordable housing lost to Indian reservation. Increase funding-increase taxes.
- Economic Development - No incentives to locate business in Scottsdale. Some incentives o.k.: infrastructure for new business.
- Economic Development - Lost revenue to reservation?
- Housing Rehabilitation & ADA – As city grows in population numbers of low income increase
- Hospitality Development – special events need to be broadened in scope to attract tourists from abroad.
- Hospitality Development - Supports our tax base
- Preservation - Maintain natural environment
- Revitalization - Growth & progress.

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- CNR Information Resources - Call customer services
- CNR Information Resources - What purpose?
- Current Planning Services - Duplication w/planning & design services
- The Downtown Group - Is this self pay?
- Economic Development - Combine w/economic vitality
- Economic Vitality Admin - Combine w/economic development
- Hospitality Development - Partnership
- Hospitality Development- There's a limit on how much you can tax people!!
- Inspection & Land Survey Services - I'm told Scottsdale will be built out in '04. Who needs an inspector!
- Planning & Design Services - Duplication w/current planning services
- Plan Review & Permit Services - Streamline/easier/lower fees/more compliance
- Preservation - Not a priority to spend millions on the purchase of rock and dirt at this time. We need tax producing income at this time!
- Preservation - Concerned over finance methods and insistence on maintaining or growing Desert Preserve.

Leisure, Cultural and Human Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Arts & Cultural Services - Scottsdale - people move here and expect a certain level in this area.
- Arts & Cultural Services - Please consider finding, affording more money for acquiring the Winfield Scott Sculpture.
- Arts & Cultural Services - Critical to Scottsdale's identity.
- Arts & Cultural Services - Please consider finding, affording more money for acquiring the Winfield Scott Sculpture.

- Custodial Services/Construction Services/Contract and Project Management/Grounds & Landscape Maintenance - Maintain Scottsdale appearance
- Custodial services - Important in order to keep Scottsdale facilities sanitary and clean and to make good impression for visitors and residents.
- Facilities Maintenance & Grounds – All Maintenance.
- Library Operations/Main Library/Branch Libraries/Library Planning & Administration - A needed foundation for youth and expected by all ages
- Parks & Recreation Planning - El Dorado park very impressive; great job done by city.
- Senior Citizen Services/Social Services Asst. & Ref./Housing Asst. & CDBG Prog./Human Services Planning & Admin. - Population aging=increased needs. Any assistance to help stay out of nursing homes/assisted living=people have independence/dignity and less costly to individual, family and society
- Senior Citizen Services (senior centers) - Should be a priority for the city. These programs may allow the elderly to live independently longer before they have to enter nursing homes/dependent care facilities.
- Senior Citizen Services/Social Services Asst. & Ref./Housing Asst. and CDBG Prog./Human Services Planning & Admin – Maintaining connection with a community and seniors
- WestWorld - Would also like to see that WestWorld is maintained and enhanced for equestrian use and less for other types of events.
- Youth Activities & After School Programs / Community Rec. Services & Fac. / Leisure Education Programs – Have more youth centers in the community
- Youth Activities & After School Programs - Important since they are the city's future. Kids need supplemental educational programs after school/need somewhere to go after school besides the "streets".

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- Adult sports and fitness programs - A low priority since many adults can afford and coordinate their own physical activity.
- Aquatics - Programs should be low priority due to the number of residential pools in Scottsdale.
- Human Services Planning & Admin. – Combine with Community Services.
- Libraries - The city's libraries are already in good shape and there are enough of them. Therefore, libraries should be a lesser priority.
- Medians & Right of Way – Can Volunteers do this?
- Medians and right-of-way - Should be a low priority simply because money can be spent in better ways on direct service programs.
- Professional Baseball - Up price to attend
- Professional Baseball - Too much focus and money spent on professional baseball. City resources could be used in a better way, not on rich ballplayers.
- Trails & Equestrian Facilities - People who can afford to ride aren't as needy as some others?
- Trails and equestrian facilities - Low priority because the upper class should be able to support and afford their own space.
- WestWorld - Should not be a high priority for Scottsdale -- there's enough recreational activities available in the city. Focus should be shifted to more community efforts and programs.

Public Safety Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Bicycle Patrol - Higher fines
- Burglary & Theft Investigations - For safety of our homes & ourselves
- Burglary & Theft Investigations - To reduce burglary
- Crime Prevention - We need higher penalties
- Fraud Investigations - For overall privacy
- General Fire Protection - Big ticket budget item
- Mounted Patrol – Wonderful P.R. / Great presence in community

- Narcotics Undercover Investigations - Get drugs off street
- Office of the Chief - Leadership required
- Patrol Services - Visible behavior change
- Patrol Services – Citizens on street savor first live response.
- Police Supply & Equipment - Provides the link to officers safety
- Traffic Enforcement - Visible behavior change-politically high profile with large audience
- Traffic Enforcement - To have people slow down, I walk a lot
- Traffic Enforcement – Higher fines
- Training / Police Supply & Equipment - Not only is training important but a trained officer needs adequate protection
- Violent Crimes Investigations - Solve violent crimes

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- Auto Theft Investigations - Beyond Police control
- Bicycle Patrol – Do not have that much involved in it.
- Court - More efficient add equipment
- Court - Liberal judiciary
- Event Traffic Control/Special Event/Off Duty Coordination - Volunteers could be trained to do this job
- False Alarm Reduction Program - Staffed by non-police personnel
- False Alarm Reduction Program - Although it reduces cost if has nothing to do with safety
- False Alarm Reduction Program - They are always false
- Internal Affairs – Fold into Office of the Chief
- Office of the Chief - Rank and file must have priority
- Recruiting & Personnel - Superior force

Transportation & Utility Services

Comments on Highest Priority Programs

- Residential Refuse Collection - Basic service
- Residential Refuse Collection - Keeps my residence clean; love monthly curbside pickup
- Transit - Important to improve if we're serious about congestion mitigation
- Transit - Reverse budget cuts of this fiscal year
- Transit - Bus system for handicap – wrong place to cut budget. Dial-A-Ride program and handicap accessibility for mass transit very important to the elderly/disabled.
- Traffic Engineering - Planning/control is important-it is integral part of public safety
- Traffic Engineering - Congestion a major challenge to Scottsdale quality of life
- Transportation Master Planning - Include bikes & pedestrians
- Transportation Master Planning - Interaction with neighboring regional government entities critical
- Transportation Master Planning - Quality of life issue going forward
- Water Conservation - I lived for 4.5 years with running water only 10 hours out of every 24.
- Water Distribution - Need for healthy water
- Water Production - Basic need/service
- Water Production - We are in long-term drought and Scottsdale's advanced preparation may make a difference.

Comments on Lowest Priority Programs

- Household Hazardous Waste Program - Less significant than potable water or safe travel
- Household Hazardous Waste - Questions limited impact
- Irrigation Water Distribution System - High cost for more golf courses
- Planet Ranch Water Rights - May be better to divest
- RWDS Administration - Cost for accommodating golf courses
- Street Cleaning - Seems somewhat trivial
- Street Cleaning - Could be less - some is city's personnel

- WestWorld Golf and Recharge/Inlet golf Course Irrigation - Golf should pay its own way, not be subsidized
- WestWorld Golf and Recharge - Understand importance of West World in terms of Sales tax revenues but we have other golf courses and polo is an anachronism.

In difficult economic times how would you prefer the City respond?

- A. - We will have difficult times. I don't think I would want to increase taxes.
- I think would all try to stay within our budgets! If we can! Like we all have to do!
- A. - Combine like efforts (departments)
- A. - In general, I'm for lower taxes so I'd like to see inflows=outflows. I have no objections to holding budget surpluses to a reasonable level in good times.
- B. - We don't want to retrogress regarding the high quality of life associated with our city. City's property tax rates were lowered last year by council, even as we're looking at raising sales taxes. Property taxes should not have been lowered. Sales taxes area heavier burden upon low-income citizens.
- B. - Growing population demand and expectation drive requirement for additional coverage and services. Will create need for increased revenues.
- C. - Need to look for ways to economize while minimizing impact on services. Absolutely should pursue new revenue sources to keep quality up.
- C. - Nothing exists in a vacuum or is simplistic. Choices in taxes can seldom be arbitrary.
- C. - Everyone would like to see reductions in expenses, if it can be done without a material impact on quality of life. Problem is, it usually seems that the quality of like areas - parks, arts, etc are first to be cut. Some areas could be covered by user fees.
- C. - As we do in our lives in hard times. So must the City do. Suck it in!
- C. - Reduce all non-essential services and cut personnel. Increase revenue through sales tax and possibly property taxes.
- C. - Citizen review of line item budget item in every city department would save the taxpayers money and/or allow for re-prioritization of funds.
- C. - Prioritize and get creative.
- C. - Reducing budget by offloading services and reducing benefits paid out. Do not reduce services. See if you can get private donations.
- C. - Does the city have a cost improvement program? Are pay increases based on performance or across the board? Look at fees and fines.

Where do you think the money should come from?

- All - If more funds are needed then, whichever is most equitable and approved by voters.
- Sales/Property/User - Increase or establish user fees for bars, to offset cost of police and clean up services.
- Property/User - Our property are unusually low and property tax provides a steady/constant revenue stream when compared to sales tax.
- Property/User/Service - Don't think sales taxes should be raised much higher.
- Property/User/Service - Need to explore all options (not sales tax – close to max) and consider our competitive position. May cost us more but is worth it!
- Property/User/Service Charges – Sales Tax is high enough. Scottsdale property values keep appreciating; local tax rates can bear a more progressive rate structure.
- User / Service - Public expectation for superior service without increased taxation is real. Fairness and distribution of revenue responsibility supports user of services to pay instead of general fund. Sales tax weight. Already too high and could impair economic development.
- User/Other - Scottsdale has the lowest court fines-increase them. Pay according to usage. Not increase sales tax, we need to remain competitive.
- User - User fees seem to be best able to target those who benefit from the services provided.
- User – If we need to raise revenue.
- User - Let visitors pick up the slack as is done in other cities.

- Other - Private donations and fines should be raised
- Other - Federal funding, impact fees, private sector dollars, land trades.
- Other – Need a city task force similar to Gov. Napolitano's on revising tax structures.

Cost reduction ideas

- Outsource/Sell Services/Charge for free services.
- Some of the feedback from tonight they need to look at – see what can do without! If we can!
- Less money spent for beautification, trollies, turf for a temporary dog run. More volunteer programs.
- Cost a critical eye upon: outside consultant costs. Printing services many and expensively printed materials.
- Despite it being my highest priority, I could see reducing the monthly curbside pick-up to once every 6 weeks to 2 months.
- I don't think cost reductions should come by continued lack of raises for staff, reduction in health insurance, pension etc. We'd lose in the long run because many of best and brightest would be lured away.
- Trash-brush pickup on demand – rather than scheduled
- I like prefab plans for homeowner improvement-one stop shop fees (high) may discourage compliance. I think the low flow toilet, landscape and other H2O saving programs. Periodic neighborhood cleanups with city provided garbage bins. ASU student rentals are a big problem in our neighborhood.

General Comments

- We have good city government here. Thanks to city employees!
- I have been nothing but impressed with the treatment I have received from Scottsdale city employees-refuse collection, water/sewer rate adjustment, etc.
- 1. Should provide criteria for ranking. 2. Should rank with more focused categories. It's hard to say water is more or less important than wastewater or transportation. 3. Rating form includes items not applicable – unclear.
- What is the status of improvements on Hayden from Shea to Redfield (were to have begun in 2004).
- Need to establish a serious bike/pedestrian transportation program.

February 26, 2004
Spanish-Language Outreach
Paiute Park

Comments:

- More Police
- Speed Humps
- Street sweeping schedule needs to be better communicated to allow residents to move their cars.
- I feel that the parks are sufficient
- I feel that trash collection service is good.
- To keep city clean
- Traffic control - fast cars in alleys.
- To keep kids busy
- People throw their couches & garbage all over.
- Because the adolescents won't be with bad influences (why traffic enforcement, Parks maintenance and Youth Services were ranked high)
- Because the focus should be on our people (youth) (why sidewalk maintenance, recycling and traffic signal timing were low priorities)
- We need to be able to follow rules, live clean and comfortably. You need to have positive things to do and stay out of trouble.
- Police are important to maintain peace and order (why Code Enforcement, Youth Services and Police services were ranked high)
- Need clean streets
- Need libraries for children
- Need police to respond when we need them.
- (Ranked traffic enforcement, bus/transit services, youth services and public library most important) because we need to be more watchful of our youth and children.
- The most important thing is more vigilance (police presence) on the streets.
- Senior and youth services - Scottsdale has a lot of these groups and they need services.
- Code enforcement - unless we keep properties clean, we'll lose our image of a quality community - lose tourism & econ. dev. opp's.
- Concerned that code enforcement doesn't reach Hispanic population. They ignore citations, don't understand or care to keep areas clean, help environment.
- Wish to have more police and neighborhood safety.
- Stop the speeders to keep our Scottsdale family safe.
- Keep kids off the street.
- Keep Scottsdale happy. Not overcrowded.
- I walk everywhere I don't drive.
- Park parking inefficient. Clean streets important for child safety.
- Bus/transit - wish to have more frequent bus services. Sometimes have to wait up to 1 hour to go to doctor's appointment.
- Driving - see many pot holes.
- Services to youth are important so that they all will be able to work.
- Need more police presence.
- Emergency services, code enforcement and street cleaning are necessary. These services are priority.
- (Ranked economic development high) Los Arcos is a priority needs to become a community gathering place.
- (Ranked drinking water, parks maintenance and police services most important) These are the most important and benefit us most.
- (Ranked drinking water, parks maintenance and youth services most important) I believe these are the ones most helpful for us.
- (Ranked drinking water, youth services, and police services most important) for a perfect community all work together.

- They are all important.
- (Ranked economic development, traffic signal timing and land use, planning and zoning least important) because they don't touch me, I don't see them.
- (Ranked drinking water, sidewalk maintenance, recreation programs, recycling, and garbage collection most important) I picked these services as most important because they are the ones I experience the most.
- (Ranked code enforcement, economic development and land use, planning and zoning least important) don't believe these are as helpful.

E-mails received at Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Joyce Winston

Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2004 9:39 PM

To: Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

Subject: budget

I believe there should be enough money to maintain Scottsdale Road, especially north of Bell. There is gas tax as well as general and Scottsdale really has only one main street and it should be better maintained.

Also, there is no public art in the northern areas of Scottsdale, as there is in the southern area. Shouldn't this be budgeted from those funds specified for that. For example, the corner of Bell (FLW) and Scottsdale is a disaster. Can't something be done on the corners??

-----Original Message-----

From: jeanne carey

Sent: Friday, January 30, 2004 10:40 AM

To: Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

Subject: My priorities for the city budget

To Whom It May Concern:

I believe that Scottsdale's City Government is well run. I would like to see more budget allocations for public safety, including a police helicopter, increased K-9 and horse units, and increased bicycle unit. I would like to have a more convenient public transportation system with more buses. I do not favor using increased budget allocations for buying preserve land in the mountains. I would prefer that those homeowners whose property values benefit the most be taxed for the preserve land. Thank you for providing me with a method of expressing my input. Jeanne M. Carey

-----Original Message-----

From: James McCay

Sent: Monday, February 02, 2004 12:35 PM

To: Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

Subject: Scottsdale Budget impact

The Coronado/Giants project is an example of a process that needs reviewing for the future years and benefit of Scottsdale.

There should not be the situation that we have Scottsdale taxes wasted in unnecessary court proceedings.

Thanks,
James

-----Original Message-----

From: Bob Vitell

Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2004 4:21 AM

To: Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

Subject: Needed

Chapparell Lake needs water. We pay for licenses and all we are getting is a mud hole. Many people enjoy this park for walking, fishing, picnics and various sports events. Letting this lake go so low is a crime.

Neighborhoods should be looked at for bad neighbors leaving junk in their yards. Houses unpainted for several years also makes neighborhoods look bad.

-----Original Message-----

From: Arthur Mones

Date: Wed, 11 Feb 2004 22:47:50 -0700

To: budget@scottsdaleaz.gov

Subject: "Tell Us Your Priorities For The City Budget"

To City Council Members,

Thank you for asking me to share my views on budget priorities. They follow and are not necessarily shown in the order of importance.

Arthur Mones

President, Scottsdale Horizon Master Community Association

Fire department and paramedic support:

There should be enough money budgeted to sustain and/or build an effective fire department and paramedic support group. The personnel should receive competitive salaries and benefits.

Traffic enforcement:

Budget to provide effective traffic enforcement. In mid 2002 there were only 4 police cars assigned to traffic enforcement. On June 6, 2002, then Chief Bartosh said in response to our complaint (and complaints of many others) about inadequate traffic enforcement, that he was reassigning two park policemen to traffic and that he was doing other things as well. Ignoring the merits of the reassignment, the City should budget for effective traffic enforcement, not just adequate enforcement. Clearly the City conceded four cars were not enough. It's not clear six were/are either. There is discretionary money in the budget and traffic enforcement should be high on the City's priority list, irrespective of complaints and the invitation you are providing for resident input.

Traffic enforcement devices:

Photo-radar, left turn signals, and other safety implementations that were submitted to Risk Management recently are required in my community, Horizon, along with more police enforcement. Similar requests were made to the Transportation Department for over 5 years. Budget for those requests and implement them.

Police/paramedic helicopters:

Budget and spend the money approved in the 2000 bond issue for police/paramedic helicopters. They are as important to the public's well being as additions at WestWorld (WW) and a new aquatic center.

What is the risk associated with delaying purchase of the helicopters?

Police Department generally:

Budget for an adequate well equipped police department that receives competitive salary and benefits.

Water and air quality:

My understanding is that arsenic content, for example, is high in Scottsdale drinking water. There should be sufficient money budgeted to reduce it relatively soon.

Determine the risk to those drinking water with high levels of arsenic, sometimes in combination with TCE and other impurities.

Budget to improve overall air and water quality starting now. This means going beyond just meeting the current Federal standards.

It is also my understanding that there is a several day lag between completion of analysis of some water contaminants and the release of drinking water for public consumption. The analysis takes several days.

To avoid the risk of releasing water that has not been fully certified as being acceptable, there must be a water storage facility that serves as a buffer. Budget to construct that buffer.

Noise abatement:

Budget for noise determinations in the City's neighborhoods, Horizon for example. Monitor and stop occurrences of single-event high intensity noise at hours when people are trying to sleep.

Simply dealing with some of the 101-highway noise by use of low-noise-asphalt does not solve the noise problems in the City. The City must budget for strong enforcement of existing noise regulations, and for determining what else is required to deal effectively with (a) motorcycle noise, (b) noisy car engines, (c) buses, (d) trucks, (e) brake squeal, (f) aircraft and (g) other sources of noise. The City must enact an ordinance quickly that effectively results in noise reduction.

The City budget must include implementation of methods to reduce or eliminate noise from WW events.

It affects neighborhoods close to WW, Horizon, for example. Some events at WW must be held in enclosed areas to achieve noise reduction. Further, what applies to WW events applies elsewhere.

Airport safety:

The City must budget for legal and lobbying services to influence the FAA so it insists that there is a controller present at the Scottsdale Airport for flights that occur during the night and in the early morning.

There is no controller present from 9 PM to 6 AM. An alternative to this is to have the FAA close the airport during the hours in question.

Absence of a controller increases the potential for aircraft accidents and misuse of aircraft and the airport. Terrorists, for example, will have an opportunity during those hours to misuse the airport and aircraft.

Assume the lobbying and legal efforts will be successful and budget for hiring a flight controller from 9 PM to 6 AM.

Code Enforcement (CE):

There should be adequate personnel in CE to determine and react to infractions, standing water, neighborhood intrusion etc. There should be overtime budgeted for CE so late night/early morning violations are detected and stopped.

Leveling the playing field between residents and the City and residents and developers:

Residents shouldn't have to fight City Hall. But until City Hall acts as an honest broker and not an adversary, the playing field should be leveled. The City, for whatever reason or circumstance, forms alliances with developers, providers, et al. This is not news. Thus residents must contend with the Staff, the Council, the Commissions, the City attorneys, the City Manager, the developers and their attorneys, et al. Typically what is at stake is intrusion in neighborhoods, compromise of public health and safety, and compromise of quiet enjoyment of property. Sometimes the City is both developer, and advocate for development and construction that adversely affects residents.

Fairness requires that there be a budget item that permits residents to have the services of city attorneys, outside counsel, if required, as well as experts, as needed, to deal with the issues at hand. Residents should not have to scramble to obtain expert advice and guidance. What is also required is that the City attorneys, all of the City Staff, and members of the Council and Commissions do not become the developer's advocates.

None of this is academic or an abstraction. Some examples of what I refer to follow:

Residents vs. the City:

The most intrusive and least safe design alternative for the Thompson Peak Parkway Bridge was constructed in 1998. At one point there were four design alternatives and finally two. The City chose the least desirable of the two.

Residents vs. the City:

The new aquatic center will be located in and near neighborhoods that did not want it because it was intrusive and could have easily been built elsewhere where it would not be intrusive. It will be constructed in 2004.

Residents vs. Wireless Providers and the City.

A wireless ordinance was enacted in 2003 that marginally addressed public health. It could have been much stronger and thereby in line with other municipalities, e.g., Paradise Valley, AZ, Sunnyvale CA. The ordinance does not protect the City from liability, although that could easily have been accomplished if the City required indemnification from wireless providers, which it chose not to do.

-----Original Message-----

From: Diane Keiser

Sent: Sunday, February 15, 2004 3:08 PM

To: Budget@scottsdaleAZ.gov

Subject: city priorities

Hello, my name is Diane Keiser. Since I can't attend any of the citizen budget forums, I'd love to be able to share some of my thoughts. I work for the city(Civic Center Library) and love living in Scottsdale. I think it's a wonderful mix of people, shops, dinning, parks and cultural events. My concerns are that laws are just not being enforced. I'm sure I'm not the only citizen concerned with the horrible number one honors Az has, ie. red light running, no insurance, high insurance rates, car theft -to name a few. I see so many people running red lights (it's epidemic as far as I'm concerned), speeding, illegal turns, expired car registration (I saw one last week that was from April 2003-almost a year expired). What can I, as a citizen do to help? I know the police force is only so big and they can't be everywhere, but what can I do (is there a hot-line/website to report traffic infractions?) I hate to sit idilly by, while these problems become even more horrific and I have to keep paying (my car insurance has gone up 3 times in a year-even with a clean record). It makes me wonder why some of us uphold the law, while others do not-and get away with it. Not that I'm going to jump on the law breaking wagon, but what is the incentive to uphold the law?

On a positive note, I think the city has some of the best parks in the country. And as a dog owner, I love all the attention and work that the one on McDonald and Hayden is getting. It nice that citizens with dogs, can get a fair share of Scottsdale parks too.

Thanks for letting me vent, and anything that you can answer for me would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Diane Keiser

-----Original Message-----

From: Donna Hardin

Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2004 11:55 AM

To: budget@scottsdaleaz.gov

Subject: Budget meeting

I was planning on attending one of your Citizen Budget Forums but unfortunately, I am not able to attend. Since I will not be present, I thought I would let you know my priorities through email.

1. No more taxes for the Preserve. We are constantly reminded how important the preserved desert is for economic health of the state, not just the city. If those at the Legislature believe the desert is so important, they should stop black mailing the cities into paying to preserve them. Certain areas should be set aside to bring in "state" revenue through tourism. Property values continue to climb in north Scottsdale by expanding the Preserve with my tax dollars, while my part of town continues to decline because of neglect. If the Preserve is so valuable to north Scottsdale, let those who live there and receive the benefit pay for it.
2. Road maintenance and street scapes. The City does a nice job of putting in beautiful street scapes throughout, but does not take care of them. One example is Goldwater Boulevard. When it is maintained, it looks great. Unfortunately, often the trees and bushes become overgrown and the sidewalks are impassable, and trash accumulates. Let's spend a few bucks to keep the area from neglect.
3. How about a small budget to work with Valley Metro to make the purchase of monthly passes an easy process? If it weren't so difficult to buy a monthly pass, perhaps more people would ride. Perhaps passes could be sold at the courtesy counter at the grocery stores. When I enquired about buying a monthly pass at the Loloma Station, I was told I could only purchase with cash – no credit cards, no checks. Their hours are limited so I had to make a special trip on Saturday to pick up a pass. To purchase by mail, I would need to pay a deposit. With so many hurdles, it is no wonder more people don't ride the bus.
4. Spending more money on traffic timing would also be a good idea. As I travel each morning to work along Indian School Road, between Hayden and 68th Street it is not unusual to stop for three or four lights. On the return home in the evening, I don't travel Indian School Road because the congestion is too great. At Civic Center/Drinkwater a person frequently has to wait through two light changes. Timed lights would move traffic along more smoothly and reduce pollution.
5. We hear constantly in the press about how much the Los Arcos project will cost the City. Why don't we hear about how much the City is losing now in lost tax revenue from having forty acres producing something? The Ellman Company receives a portion of tax dollars if they are produced. Let's do something to increase revenue at that intersection – something bold like BUILD SOMETHING! How many times must the citizens vote until something happens at that site. I would love to have Lowe's or Home Depot and a Super WalMart at that location. Now I do my shopping in Phoenix on 36th Street & Thomas for WalMart and on the Indian Reservation for Home Depot. I just purchased nearly \$9,000 in cupboards last week and will spend another

\$3,000 to \$4,000 for more remodeling work. All this revenue and tax dollars outside Scottsdale. How many others are spending their retail tax dollars elsewhere?

6. Have more focus on generating revenue. Encourage growth in south Scottsdale. The potential is there.

Donna Hardin

-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Heath

Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2004 12:37 PM

To: budget@scottsdaleaz.gov

Subject: Budget Request

I am unable to make any of the public meetings on the 2004/2005 Scottsdale city budget, but would like to officially request that the City of Scottsdale disband the 2004/2005 field usage fees for sports field maintenance, and instead direct city funds to the maintenance of sports fields adjacent to area schools in south and central Scottsdale. The system as it is designed today penalizes youth sports organizations who do not play on city maintained fields, but must provide funds to their upkeep nevertheless. This request includes providing funds for the rehiring of missing City Parks Department personnel.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kay Batterman

Sent: Friday, February 20, 2004 11:32 AM

To: Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

Subject: A priority for the budget

Because I was unable to attend the budget forum in my area, I would like to propose that you make plans for the following in the budget for Scottsdale:

The senior citizens who live north of Via Linda have no center and there are many here to be served. They need a place for recreation, exercise, and intellectual stimulation. This is a very large part of Scottsdale that is not being served.

Until such center can be built, we need a pick up point in the north for trips that seniors take. To illustrate this need: when I called this fall to make arrangements to take one of the senior bus tours, I was told the only pick up points were at the Civic Center and Via Linda centers. That is a long distance to ask North Scottsdale seniors to drive during rush hour only to have the bus trip to the north go very close to our homes. (I did not get to take advantage of the opportunity.)

Surely this progressive city can do better for seniors who live north of the Via Linda Center.

Thank you.

Kay D. Batterman

-----Original Message-----

From: Bob Vitell

Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2004 7:52 AM

To: budget@scottsdaleaz.gov

Subject: Re: Needed

Chaparral Lake is getting worse and worse. The rain helped only slightly. Please do something about this nice park.

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Pian

Sent: Sunday, February 29, 2004 11:06 AM

To: budget@scottsdaleaz.gov

Subject: Youth sports budget needs.

A Scottsdale funding need.

Scottsdale Parks and Recreation lacks full time non "ball" sport support. Our personal example is Olympic Style Target Archery.

The reason for this is that there are an insufficient number of participants to justify a dedicated facility. We at the Arizona Junior Olympic Archery Development Association (AZJOAD) learned this lesson when our request for a Tourism and Sports Authority Youth Sports grant was declined.

What we discovered is that there are many sports that "don't have the numbers".

BUT... If multiple non-traditional activities could share a space, its full time use would justify the funding of a non-ball sport multi use facility. I receive parent inquiries weekly wanting to know their child can participate regularly in the discipline of target archery.

Here is a preliminary, off the top of my head, listing of non-traditional activities that could share such a facility.

Indoor target archery

Ballroom/Country/Square dancing

Yoga/Shadow boxing/Martial Arts

Dog obedience/agility/shows

Fencing

Exercise

Or any other activity needing a large open room that does not have the numbers to compete with basketball.

These activities could all use a 60' x 120' room. Each activity could use the facility once a week and then conduct an event or tournament once a month on the weekends. These activities are generally non profit club sports and cannot afford commercial rental space.

The key to attracting children to a youth activity is to make the parents comfortable with the environment. A nearby enclosed air conditioned environment is essential for parents.

There are no indoor archery ranges in Scottsdale, East Phoenix or Tempe. The two commercial indoor archery ranges in Maricopa County (Chandler and Northwest Phoenix) are small and dominated by male hunters, which make many parents uncomfortable.

National Archery Association Clubs have liability insurance and injury is virtually unheard of and far less frequent than all ball sport.

In closing Scottsdale supports soccer, little league, football, softball, tennis, golf and basketball so well that demand for more ball sport space continues to grow. We suggest that "diversity" be considered before more of the same is provided. Activities for those that don't, run the fastest, jump the highest, move the quickest, deserve the same opportunities as the "ball sport players"

Please feel free to contact me with any question, comments or discussion. Here is the Arizona State Archery Association website www.azarchery.com

Here is the Arizona JOAD Association website <http://www.azarchery.com/2004azjoad/2004home.htm>

Thank you for your time to consider the need.

Bob Pian
AZJOAD Coordinator
www.azjoad.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Kim Edwards
Sent: Sunday, February 29, 2004 11:22 AM
To: BUDGET@SCOTTSDALEAZ.GOV
Subject: Input

I would really like to see budgeted items to include (NOT TAKE AWAY OR REDUCE) additional job training and educational support for our police officers, additional police officers (based on information from other cities our with our similar population) and additional code enforcement positions to handle a city our size. I have recommended to Raun Keagy to assist in developing a program for assisting code enforcement officers with a volunteer reprehensive within each neighborhood that receives training and guidance from Raun Keagy that gives 2-3 hours a week issuing the initial notices or warnings to help reduce the workload of their enforcement staff.

I know that the community volunteer program really helps out the police department and I believe that a pilot program for a handful of volunteers would be worthwhile to test to assist code enforcement. I have also offered to be the first volunteer to get things started-----just an idea.... :-)

Kim Edwards



Servicios Públicos

City Services

¿Cuáles de los siguientes servicios públicos son más importantes y por qué?

Which of the following city services are the most important, and why?

¿Cuáles son los menos importantes?

Which are least important?

Más Importante (Most)	Menos Importante (Least)	Servicios en Español	Services in English
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agua potable	Drinking water
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ambulancia/servicios de emergencia	Ambulance/emergency medical services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Control de tráfico	Traffic enforcement
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cumplimiento de los códigos (Las condiciones de deterioro en los vecindarios)	Code enforcement (of blight conditions in neighborhoods)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Desarrollo económico (asistencia y asesoría de negocios, trabajos, turismo)	Economic development
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limpieza de calles	Street cleaning
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mantenimiento de aceras o banquetas	Sidewalk maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mantenimiento y apariencia de parques	Appearance/maintenance of parks
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parques públicos	City parks
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Programas recreacionales y clases	Recreation programs or classes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reciclaje	Recycling
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reparación de calles	Street repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicio de autobuses y transporte público	Bus/transit services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicio de recolección de basuras	Garbage collection
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicios a ciudadanos de edad avanzada	Services to seniors
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicios a la juventud (asistencia y preparación para conseguir trabajos, consejería, talleres informativos)	Services to youth
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicios de biblioteca pública	Public library services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicios de recolección de objetos viejos (chatarra)	Collection of junk
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicios del departamento de bomberos	Fire services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Servicios del departamento de policía	Police services
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sincronización de semáforos	Traffic signal timing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sistema de alcantarillado o drenaje	Storm drainage
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suficientes espacios para estacionamiento público	Amount of public parking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Zonificación y planificación de terrenos	Land use, planning and zoning

¿Por qué?

Why?



City of Scottsdale
2004/05 Fiscal Year Budget
Chronological Listing of Forums, Meetings, and Study Sessions

<i>Type of Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Purpose</i>
Citizen Budget Forum	Wednesday, February 4	6:30 p.m.	La Mirada Desert Center 8950 E Pinnacle Peak Rd	Public Input
Citizen Budget Forum	Thursday, February 12	6:30 p.m.	Community Design Studio 7506 E Indian School Rd	Public Input
Citizen Budget Forum	Wednesday, February 18	6:30 p.m.	Via Linda Senior Center 10440 E Via Linda	Public Input
City Council Budget Subcommittee Meeting	Thursday, March 11	5:00 p.m.	Fin. Services Conf. Room 7447 E Indian School #210	Overview Budget and Review Public Input from Forums
City Council Budget Subcommittee Study Session	Tuesday, March 23	9:00 a.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	Review dept budgets
City Council Budget Subcommittee Study Session	Friday, March 26	9:00 a.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	Review dept budgets
City Council Budget Subcommittee Study Session	Friday, April 2	9:00 a.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	Review dept budgets
City Council Budget Subcommittee Meeting	Thursday, April 15	5:00 p.m.	Fin. Services Conf. Room 7447 E Indian School #210	Discuss report to be presented to City Council, if needed.
City Council Work Study Session*	Monday, May 3	5:00 p.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	Report to City Council
City Council Regular Meeting*	Tuesday, May 4	5:00 p.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	1 st public budget hearing
City Council Regular Meeting*	Monday, May 17	5:00 p.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	2 nd public budget hearing (tentative budget adoption - set fees and legal expenditure limit for the year)
City Council Regular Meeting*	Tuesday, June 8	5:00 p.m.	City Hall Kiva Forum 3939 N Drinkwater Blvd	3 rd public budget hearing (final budget adoption)

* Scheduled to be televised on CityCable 11.

NOTE: Dates and times are subject to change. To confirm a meeting, topic, share your comments, or request additional information, please call (480) 312-2437, e-mail Budget@ScottsdaleAZ.gov or fax to (480) 312-7897.